

## Shipping.

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## Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,  
LIMITED,  
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

CHEMISTS AND AERATED WATER  
MANUFACTURERS.

A REFRESHING WHOLESOME DRINK.

DAKIN'S

LEMON SQUASH.

A VERITABLE LEMON SQUASH  
AERATED, COOLING, THIRST  
QUENCHING.

PER DOZEN 50 CENTS.

(Telephone No. 60.)

No. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,  
Hongkong, 4th May, 1891.



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.  
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)  
HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old  
-branded Brandy, all of which are of ex-  
cellent quality and good value for the money.  
The same being specially selected by our  
London House, and bought direct from the most  
noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled  
by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the  
best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state  
the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted,  
and initial letter for quality desired.  
Orders through Local Post or by Telegram  
receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Case	Per Bottle
A Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule.....	10	1.00
B Vintage, Superior quality, Red Capsule.....	12	1.10
C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule.....	14	1.25
D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled).....	18	1.50

## SHERRIES.

A Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule.....	6	0.60
B Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule.....	7.50	0.75
C Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule.....	10	1.00
CC Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule.....	10	1.00
D Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule.....	10	1.00
E Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled).....	14	1.50

## CLARETS.

A Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule.....	8	0.80
B St. Estephe, Red Capsule.....	4.50	0.50
C St. Julien.....	7	0.75
D La Rose.....	11	1.00

## BRANDY.

A Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule.....	12	1.10
B Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule.....	14	1.25
C Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule.....	18	1.50
D Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 Vin- tage, Red Capsule.....	24	2.00

## SCOTCH WHISKY.

A Thorne's Blend, White Cap- sule.....	8	0.75
B Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
C Watson's Abouln-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
D Watson's F. D. Blend, the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule.....	10	1.00
E Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule.....	12	1.10

## IRISH WHISKY.

A John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule.....	8	0.75
B John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	10	1.00
C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	12	1.10
D Jameson's Bourne Whisky, fine old, Red Capsule, with Name.....	10	1.00

## GIN.

A Fine Old Tom, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
B Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
C Fine A. V. H. Geneva.....	5.25	0.50

## RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	12	1.00
Good Lecward Island.....	1.50	per Gallon.

## LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	Maraschino
Curaçao	Herrings' Cherry Cordial
Chartreuse	Dr. Slegent's Angostura Bitters, &c.

## BIRTH.

At No. 7, Saunders' Compound, Shanghai, on  
the 21st May, the wife of THOMAS M. WILSON,  
of a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1891.

## OUR OFFICIALS.

THE Crown colony of Hongkong, of all  
Crown colonies, is unique in no other  
respect, is certainly unequalled in the re-  
spect of its audacity with which the public  
revenue is squandered by its Executive, in  
deduction of public opinion and in disregard

of true public needs or requirements. A  
glance at the paper laid on the Legislative  
Council table on the 10th of April last, as  
to the cost of official salaries, should  
convince even the most obtuse of the  
accuracy of this allegation.

Under salaries and personal allowances,  
the cost is—

1887	was	8547,650.00
1888	"	552,875.00
1889	"	602,183.00
1890	"	655,230.00
1891 (estimated)	"	758,139.00

Under Public Works Department  
salaries and personal allowances is—

1887	was	849,402.00
1888	"	62,316.00
1889	"	58,139.00
1890	"	55,998.00
1891 (estimated)	"	68,460.00

Under Resident Engineer is—

1890	was	819,532.00
1891 (estimated)	"	22,346.00

The Revenue of the colony during the  
same period was as follows:—

1887	was	81,427,485.79
1888	"	1,557,300.03
1889	"	1,821,549.13
1890	"	1,995,220.47
1891 (estimated)	"	2,052,098.00

So that the cost of salaries and personal  
allowances alone averages as near as  
possible forty per cent. of the colony's  
revenue. We challenge this fiscal record  
to be beaten by any Government  
throughout the world, not even excepting  
the mosquito republics of Central America.

Does the ratio of increase of revenue  
bear any fair proportion to the increase  
of cost of the administrative staff and  
the proposed further pay-grab increase,  
so strenuously advocated by our  
official class? We venture decidedly to say  
there is no justification for this official job;  
for not only are we confident that the  
present census will show there has been  
no abnormal influx of population since  
the last census, if the geographical  
position and circumstances of the colony  
are taken into consideration, but so far  
as we can judge, search in whatever  
direction we may, there appears to be no  
urgent public requirement which warrants  
this proposed enormous increase of official  
salaries. Before reviewing the position  
of the official departments in substantiation  
of our position, let us compare the cost of  
administration of one of the most extensive  
and important fiscal organizations in the  
world with that of this colony—we allude  
to the Imperial Maritime Customs of  
China, administered by Sir ROBERT HART,  
G.C.M.G., at Peking.

We conclude it will be admitted, that  
few better organized or more efficiently  
administered services exist; we further  
claim that the Chinese Imperial Maritime  
Customs cannot rank second either  
in importance or administrative weight  
to Hongkong, when its scope and  
ramifications, including Lighthouse and  
Statistical Departments, are taken into  
consideration, and its annual increase and  
extension of interest, as well as the fact that  
it controls and directs a fleet in efficiency  
and strength equal to any second class  
European power. Moreover, Sir ROBERT  
HART employs a far more numerous staff  
in his service than does the Hongkong  
Government, and treats them with excep-  
tional liberality both as regards salary  
and leave allowances. Now, how does  
the cost of the administration of this  
efficient service, on the one side, compare  
with that of the vaunted Crown colony of  
Hongkong on the other? Let us see! In  
the first place Sir ROBERT HART very wisely  
stipulated from the first with the Imperial  
Chinese Government that the annual  
Customs estimates and expenditure should  
be kept secret between the Tsung-li Yamen  
delegate and himself. The annual accounts  
of the Imperial Maritime Customs, in  
form and precision the very models of  
statistical perfection, are submitted, verified  
and passed by Sir ROBERT HART and his  
high Chinese official colleague. Hitherto  
it has therefore been somewhat difficult  
to obtain reliable information on the point,  
but such information in China is generally  
not difficult to secure, and the Foreign  
Legations have long been in possession of  
correct data upon this subject, which by a  
curious coincidence received conclusive  
testimony in 1887, after the Opium Con-  
vention of Hongkong, and when the additional  
income to provide for the augmentation of  
the revenue cruisers and their maintenance  
had to be petitioned for to the Throne  
by the Inspector-General. The following  
was the position of the Customs:—

1887	Tls.	20,541,399.00
1888	"	23,167,892.00
1889	"	21,823,765.00
1890	"	21,996,225.00
1891 (estd.)	"	not less than 1890

The total cost of the Customs adminis-  
tration before 1887 was under tals  
1,250,000.00, but the additions to the  
fleet and extensions of the service to newly  
opened Treaty ports were assumed to  
bring it up to about tals 2,000,000.00, or  
under ten per cent. (10%) of the  
revenue collected. The ratio in com-  
parison with the collection of revenue in  
European countries, bear in mind, is high,

but if we come also to take into considera-  
tion the exceptional position of the Imperial  
Maritime Customs, its peculiar scope and  
effect, we are not prepared to argue  
that it is excessive. But a very different  
state of things exists in Hongkong,  
where forty per cent. of the colony's revenue  
is, even under existing regulations, consumed  
in salaries and personal allowances to its  
servants. And now as to a comparison  
as to the respective efficiency of the two  
Services. Instead of a well-organized,  
orderly, energetic and economically con-  
ducted body, as in the case of the Imperial  
Maritime Customs, what do we see in  
Hongkong? Inefficiency, lack of discipline,  
disunity (except in the action of a pay-  
grab), and waste rampant, as well as clear  
evidence that the colony is over-burdened  
by a superfluity of the official element.  
The *Namda* disaster and the Cargo  
boatmen's strike referred to in the hasty  
and ill-conceived minute of Governor  
DE Vaux to the Chamber of Commerce  
the other day, will support the first  
portion of our assertion, and as regards  
the latter, we opine that the fact that  
as a rule half the official staff are on  
leave and the remainder manage to  
perform the duties of the whole, without,  
however, lessening the monetary burden  
of the colony, is proof enough. Even under  
this pleasant dual arrangement, we more  
than doubt if the officials of this colony are  
a whit more hard-worked than their  
comrades in the Civil or Military services  
of the country. The Secretariat, Police,  
Harbour, Magistracy, and Gaol rub along  
fairly enough with their chiefs away on  
pleasure, bent; and wondrous to relate  
the Registrar-General's Department and  
Treasury did the same during the  
absence of Mr. STEWART-LOCKHART, even  
with Mr. MITCHELL-INNES at the helm.  
In fact, this last named Department got  
along so well during the absence of its  
titular chief, that recent events have  
forced upon us the distinct conclusion  
that it can be safely abolished without  
detriment to the colony, and the work  
distributed over other departments with  
manifold advantages. The functions of  
the Registrar-General's department are  
principally confined to registering births,  
deaths, etc. The Protectorship of Chinese,  
which it arrogates to itself, is a fiction  
which its most recent act renders more  
ridiculous if it were not that the unfortunate  
tax-payers have to pay for the costly  
vagaries of the so-called Protector in his  
abortive attempts at harassing the Chinese.  
The Treasury answered well enough  
tacked on to the Colonial Secretaryship,  
and humbly we submit that it has neither  
gained in dignity nor public estimation  
since, after poor old LISTON's death, it was  
unyoked by Sir WILLIAM DE Vaux to find  
a soft seat for a toadying and incapable  
prig. Not only was the exposure, in the  
Post Office defalcations, of the system under  
which the work of this department was  
carried out, simply scandalous, but recent  
circumstances point to the evidence that  
at all events accountability was not a  
branch in that expensive curriculum which  
according to Mr. MITCHELL-INNES, he  
underwent to fit him for his post as  
well as for an augmentation of salary.  
Officers of the Civil Service of Great  
Britain and of her Army and Navy accept  
their positions and perform their duties,  
as we maintain, as efficiently as the  
civil servants of Hongkong, without  
any such double-barrelled extraneous  
aids to perquisites as exist  
in the colony, and contentedly draw their  
meagre pittance, (compared with what our  
colonial officials receive), but it remains for  
this Colony to set an example of pay-  
grabbing which even Senator McKENZIE  
across the pond would stand aghast at.  
It will be quite time for the colony to  
reward its servants when they prove  
themselves efficient and trustworthy.

Last there be, any cavillers at the  
apostrophes of our parallel between the  
cost of the administrative staff of this  
Crown colony and that of the Imperial  
Maritime Customs of China, let us  
say that our contention refers to Crown  
colonies generally, but Hongkong in  
particular. It must be obvious, therefore,  
that we could not seek for an example in  
another Crown colony, for they are all in the  
same swim, and a squeeze on the public  
perpetrated by one is carefully watched  
and finds a speedy imitation in another.  
Moreover, the Imperial Maritime Customs  
combines to all intents and purposes  
identical departments, although of a much  
more extensive and important character,  
than does this colony in its Secretariat,  
Audit, Harbour, Postal, Medical, and  
Treasury Departments. Its Lighthouse  
Department, covering a coast line 1,200  
miles in length, and its extensive system  
of buoys and beacons, etc., etc., besides  
no less than eight rivers, aggregating  
a length of 1,200 miles in addition, may  
safely be set against our Public Works  
Department. Its Statistical and Meteorolo-  
gical Departments we may fairly place  
against our Magisterial and Observatory  
departments. Its Preventive service,

together with its fleet of excellent cruisers,  
will advantageously compare in scope,  
character, and importance with our Police  
and Gaol departments, and as regards  
Education, the Tuan-wen-kuan will hold  
its own favourably against the Central  
School and its ramifications. So that  
the Judicial and the minor department of  
Afforestation are the only ones out  
in the cold in this estimate, but when  
we consider that ten per cent. of its  
revenue, only, is used to pay the total cost of  
the administration of this great and effec-  
tive Chinese Customs Service, whilst no  
less than forty per cent. of our revenue is  
paid away alone in salaries towards the  
administrative staff of this circumscribed  
colony, the comparison certainly becomes  
significant.

## TELEGRAMS.

SEVERE WEATHER IN ENGLAND AND  
FRANCE.

LONDON, May 19th.  
Snow hail-storms prevail in Great Britain  
and France, and are greatly injuring the fruit  
trees.

SKIRMISHING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

May 25th.  
Two hundred and fifty Portuguese arrived at  
Massikessi on the eleventh instant, found it  
evacuated, and proceeded to Fort Salisbury,  
where they met the Police of the South African  
Chartered Company. A fight ensued, the  
Portuguese loss was seven, our loss not yet  
ascertained. The Pungwe River route has been  
closed.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

ADMIRAL RICHARDS is paying Peking a visit,  
leaving Shanghai for Taku in the *Alacrity*  
yesterday week.

THE second tie in the Lawn Tennis Double  
Handicap must be completed by Saturday,  
the 26th inst. Four courts are reserved for the  
purposes of the Tournament.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 535,  
will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street,  
on Monday, the 31st proximo, at 8.30 for 9 p.m.  
precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

SHARE MARKET settlements, notwithstanding  
sporadic reports to make ends meet, have only  
been partially and temporarily adjusted. As  
Mr. Samuel Weller, senr., sagely observed, we  
will "investigate."

THE other day the *Shanghai Mercury* stated  
that German capitalists had purchased large  
controlling powers in the *N. C. Daily News*.  
The latter journal denies it, and the *Mercury*  
promises to give details.

THE two unemployed seamen who assaulted  
and robbed Lieut. P. J. Hodges on the Friday  
night last, were each sentenced, by Mr. Wise,  
at the Magistracy this morning, to six months'  
imprisonment with hard labour.

AN old party named Mary McCarthy, who had  
lived for five score and odd years, recently passed  
in her checks at the Adelaide District Asylum.  
Although born 30 years before Waterloo, she  
was the only known centenarian who didn't  
claim to have fought there, and likewise at  
Balaklava.

ON Monday, at the Peak Hospital, there died  
Capt. W. S. Brasier, of the Chinese Imperial  
Maritime Customs Service, at the early age of  
30. The deceased was a son of the well-known  
Professor Brasier, of Aberdeen University, and  
a popular and highly promising officer, who  
had a brilliant career before him.

A CORRESPONDENT writes of the *N. C. Daily*  
*News* from Chefoo, under date the 19th inst.,  
that telegraphic news had been received there, of  
the safety of the Chinese gun-vested *Talan*, but  
no details were to hand concerning her where-  
abouts during the last ten days or the nature of  
the mishap—if any—that had befallen her.

At the Police Court this morning Inspector  
Hennessy summoned a coffee-housekeeper  
named Telfenberg, hailing from Wellington  
Street, with running a public billiard table,  
without having obtained the necessary licence.  
The defendant admitted the charge, but said he  
had applied for a licence. Mr. Wise imposed a  
fine of five Medans.

THE other day the Hongkong Rifle Club  
challenged the Shanghai Volunteer Corps to a  
match, which was to take place this week, the  
shooting going on simultaneously at the two  
ports, the terms being: teams of ten men, at  
200, 300, and 600 yards, 7 shots at each range.  
At the last moment, however, the match was  
postponed at the request of the Hongkong team.

CONSEQUENT upon the retirement of Acting  
Chief Inspector Cradock, there is another  
general move in the Hongkong Police Force.  
Inspector Mathison, at present in charge of the  
Water Police, will now take the post of Acting  
Chief Inspector, and will be succeeded in the  
Water Police by Inspector Corcoran, from Shan-  
ghai, Inspector Butlin being removed to the  
latter district.

We have been favored with good news from  
Punjom. Ten tons of stuff milled the other week  
yielded 448 ounces of *retorted bullion*. And  
Mr. Blaney writes that "over seven pounds of  
gold were got in a few hours by four men only,  
working at Gubau." When it is authoritatively  
announced that the Punjom Co. has about 250  
ounces of gold in stock and under order for ship-  
ment, the long-suffering shareholders may  
reasonably hope for the silver lining of the cloud  
that has been hanging over them for so long.

It is quite a mistake to imagine that the  
threatened revival of "home" or knee-breeches  
leg will be opposed by thin-legged men. No man's  
leg is thin in his own estimation, and the Sim-  
appert of "Barnaby Rudge" was merely  
mistaken in believing that his distant broom-  
sticks were "thin invaders of domestic peace."  
For a proof that British character hasn't changed  
since the times when the whole male population  
delighted to wear knee-breeches, one has only  
to run his eye along a line of cyclists, local or  
otherwise. Dogs bark at many of the members  
under the impression that they are boses.

THE Governor-General Li of Canton has raised  
some troops which are being drilled  
according to foreign tactics, says the *Hu-pao*.

IN France, as a result of peasant-proprietorship,  
out of a population of 37,000,000 over 24,000,000  
live in the rural districts. In England and Wales  
as a result of the opposite system, 2,000,000  
only live in the country, and 17,000,000 in the  
towns.

The masters of the *Wing Fai* and *Wing Lee*  
launches were charged at the Police Court this  
morning with carrying on the former five, and  
on the latter eighteen passengers in excess of the  
number allowed by their licences. P.C.  
Hansen said his attention was called to the  
launches by a gentleman who was not in  
attendance. Mr. Wise remanded the case for the  
attendance of the same.

Few people can form a definite idea of what is  
involved in the expression, "An inch of rain."  
It may add such to follow this curious calcu-  
lation: An acre is equal to 6,272,640 square  
inches; an inch deep of water on this area will  
be as many cubic inches of water, which, at 227  
to the gallon, is 27,000 gallons. This immense  
quantity of water will weigh 220,000 pounds, or  
110 tons. One-hundredth of an inch (or) alone  
is equal to one ton of water to the acre.

BECHER on Punjom:—"You will be pleased  
to know that everything is progressing so  
satisfactorily but (sic) for the lack of water which  
prevents milling; otherwise the output of gold  
and quartz from both Jalis mine and your  
prospecting workings at Gubau is going to be  
considerable for towards affording the material  
for return against working expenses." It is very  
kind of Becher to tell us all this, but if it is not  
doubt excellent person would mind his own  
business it would be very much more to the  
purpose. There has already been too much  
humbug and gas-bag twaddle in the history of  
the Punjom Company.

DISPATCHES from Paris report that an attempt  
is being made to revive the Panama canal  
scheme. Meanwhile, says the *S. F. Commercial*  
*News*, economical but steady work is progressing  
at Nicaragua; the administration, backed by  
popular feeling, favors that route, and if the  
American nation is at all in accord with the sen-  
sible sentiment in favor of progress, the canal  
will be a fact in a few years. The advantages  
to both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts will be  
enormous, and the whole Mississippi basin will  
participate in them, so that more than three-  
quarters of this nation will obtain direct benefits  
from its construction, and the other fourth will  
be indirectly benefited. Panama, to use a slang  
expression, "isn't it!"

The charge of reckless shooting brought by a  
note against W. Schmidt, gun-smith, was again  
before Mr. A. G. Wise at the Police Court this  
morning. Detective Haden stated that about  
a month ago he went to the defendant's shop to  
get some ammunition. During the time he was  
there he saw the defendant take a similar gun  
that he produced in Court, load it, and then say  
"Do you see that Chinaman there? I am going  
to have a pop at him." Witness said, "I don't  
do that; you might hurt him." He said "Oh,  
there is no harm," but after some persuasion the  
defendant took out the pellet and did not fire.  
In answer to his Worship the defendant said he  
had nothing further to say. Mr. Wise considered  
the charge fully proved, and imposed a fine of  
\$40, and \$20 compensation to the complainant,  
and \$20 to another witness who was also wounded.

THERE is an Archimedean lever in Bangkok by  
the name of the *Sham Hye*. The editor has  
just been excited over our recent article on the  
"manufacture of criminals," and ends up a  
rapidity on the efficiency of journalism here  
with the following statement—"I have been  
given a less prominent place to police and  
official utterances generally, and gone to a little  
more trouble and cultivated the public taste for  
more useful information,—at the same time  
kept a whip in hand for recreant public servants  
—they would not now have the giant to deal  
with that has got them in his grip and almost  
manacled them to the earth, in Hongkong." The  
rest of the *Harold* consists of two columns and  
a bit on "Phosphate as an economic product," two  
on "The downfall of the Mormons," and an  
"American Letter" six weeks old. There  
seems to be a taste for very useful information  
in the editorial mouth in Bangkok.

THUS the San Francisco *Bulletin*:—"A Capetown  
newspaper suggests that if Great Britain cannot  
take care of colonial interests the  
Imperial flag should be hoisted down. This is  
on account of Portuguese action in South Africa.  
The time was, when Great Britain monopolized  
the trade of her colonies, that they added to her  
commercial strength, even if it cost something  
to defend them. Under the policy rendered  
necessary by the advance of public sentiment,  
British colonies now trade where they like and  
put duties on British goods, while as much as  
ever they require defense from the Home Govern-  
ment. It is hard to see what England makes  
out of her independent colonies. With India the  
case may be different, but as regards such coun-  
tries as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc.,  
England and the colonies alike would be better  
off for separation. Canada would be England's  
weak point in a war with the United States, and  
every colony would be menaced by the jealousy  
of England in war with a maritime Power,  
in which the colony would have no interest. A  
good many of the colonists are beginning to  
appreciate these considerations."

The following, according to home papers, is the  
programme for the Casarewitch after leaving  
Japan, but whether it will be adhered to now or  
not remains to be seen.—From St. Petersburg it  
is stated that the Casarewitch is expected to arrive  
again in Russian territory towards the middle of  
May. He will land at Vladivostok, where the  
so-called Pacific Squadron will repair for the  
reception of the Prince. An official reception by  
all the military and civil authorities will also  
take place, at which Baron von Korff, the  
Governor-General of the Amur territory, will be  
present. After two days' stay, during which he  
will inspect the vessels of the squadron, the  
Casarewitch will leave for Irkutsk accompanied  
by Baron von Korff. He will be escorted  
by about 400 Kirghis, representatives of the  
first Kirghis families, who have begged to  
have the honour of acting in this capacity. On  
the frontier of Eastern Siberia the Casarewitch  
will be met by Governor-General Gerasimov,  
by whom he will be accompanied further on  
his journey. On July 14th he is expected to  
arrive at Omsk. I here the tribes of the  
Steppes will meet to celebrate several na-  
tional festivities, when, hawking, competi-  
tion, games on horse-back, and races by the  
Steppes horses will take place. From Omsk  
the Prince will go on to Orsk. Next the frontier of  
the Government of Turkestan will be reached by  
the Governor-General, Baron Vrevald, and  
the representative of the Emir of Bokhara and  
the Khan of Khiva, who will bring valuable  
presents and greet the Casarewitch in the name  
of their sovereigns. The Prince will then con-  
tinue his journey to Orenburg to Ural, where  
his reception promises to be not less brilliant  
as the Ural Cossacks at the time of his arrival  
will be celebrating the three hundredth  
anniversary of the foundation of their tribe,  
representatives of the Ural Cossack Army will  
gather to greet and to fill the Hetman. After  
a few days at Uralak the Casarewitch will return  
home by way of Samara.

WE understand that Mr. T. Watters, late Consul  
at Newchwan, assumes charge of the Canton  
Consulate to-morrow.

THE *Hu-pao* says:—"The Chinese gentry and  
merchants are proposing to start a steam ferry  
Company between Hongkong and Canton. The  
capital is to be \$1,500,000, raised by shares.  
Steamer boats suitable for the purpose will be  
purchased or built. The Chinese Merchant's  
office in Canton will be the Company's temporary  
head-office, and there is to be a branch office in  
Hongkong. The name of the company is the  
Hongkong and Canton Steam Ferry-boat Com-  
pany, Limited.

Two Celestials were arraigned before Mr. Wise  
this morning for carrying snatching on the Praya  
last night. After committing the offence  
the defendants managed to escape, but were  
arrested last night in a house in High Street.  
They admitted stealing them, and said the  
earrings had been sold to a goldsmith in  
Wing-lok Street. The prisoners were each  
sentenced to six months' hard labour and to  
receive two whippings of a dozen strokes each,  
during their term. A shopman of the Heung  
Cheung gold-shop was then charged with receiving  
the earrings, knowing them to have been  
stolen. Mr. Caldwell defended and pleaded that  
the defendant had bought them in ignorance of  
their being stolen, and purchasing them at their  
full value from the sellers. Mr. Wise was satisfied  
as to this, and discharged the defendant.

FROM a San Francisco contemporary:—"A  
Christian child has been killed in the Jewish  
quarter of Corfu, one of the Ionian islands, and  
great excitement exists. The people believe  
that the child was killed as a Passover sacrifice.  
The incident illustrates the intense religious  
prejudice. The absurd idea of the sacrifice of  
Christian children by the Jews is a relic of  
medieval



the money, but you write saying "Please send cheque for \$100."

After a few further questions by the Court, the case for the plaintiff was concluded.

Mr. Robinson, in opening the case for the Company, submitted that the appropriation for the year 1889-90 was \$300,000, and that the directors gave to Mr. Hancock to get certain things from England could not be upheld. It was a simple matter of account, the question being whether or not Mr. Hancock had been indemnified for the work he did; but he had not, and he was entitled to it. He claimed \$1200 in respect to a contract the practical part of which was only some \$300,000—40 per cent. of the contract. He had got 27 per cent. without the directors' consent, and it was for his lordship to say whether or not that was excessive. Expert evidence would be given, showing that his charges were exorbitant, and Mr. Fraser-Smith would detail the circumstances under which charges for rent were made.

Mr. Fraser-Smith was then called, and said:—I am chairman of the board of directors of the Shamen Hotel Company. Mr. Hancock went to Canton in July 1889, by myself and Mr. Pittman, to make an inspection of the site which the Company had purchased to build a hotel on. Mr. Denison had previously prepared a plan, but Mr. Hancock was engaged because the board doubted the suitability of the place for the purpose. We inspected the site, and Mr. Hancock unhesitatingly pronounced it unsuitable. Mr. Pittman suggested that we should visit the Cordelia Hall, which Mr. Hancock strongly advised the purchase of. On his report I entered into negotiations with Messrs. Chater and Mody, the owners, and eventually we purchased the place for \$20,000. Mr. Hancock was retained as architect to supervise the alteration of the building, and supplied plans. He had given us none in connection with the hotel-house lot. He refused to pay the charge for such plans, and Mr. Hancock said he was entitled to make the charge for advice. I offered to recommend the board to pay him \$100 for what he did if he would give us a quitclaim for all we owed him. He agreed to that, and in November 1889 sent in an account for \$400 in pursuance of our arrangement. No plans for the house were supplied, and none were included in the bill. It was not understood that Mr. Hancock should charge for his visits to Canton whilst retained as architect to the Company. His visits on other occasions were principally made in connection with a scheme for a Bund, then being promoted by the Viceroy. With reference to a charge of \$160 for rent, Mr. Hancock suggested that the clerical work of the Company should be done in his office, for his own convenience. It had previously been done in his premises, without any charge.

Cross-examined—The plans produced were never made for the Company, but must have been for the purposes of this suit. Witness had not consented to the whole of the charges, but to one charge of \$50 for a special visit. As to one of the plans alleged to have been supplied to the Company, witness was quite certain there was no such plan among the records of the Company although there was no reply to his letter saying he enclosed such a plan. Plaintiff was not entitled to charge for that. As to the "rent of office" charge, the only office was Mr. Hancock's drawing office, where one desk was used for the Marlin and the Hotel Co.; \$20 a month was an excessive charge for a desk. If Mr. Barretto had said it was a fair charge witness would have opposed it, as the office was taken there at Hancock's request on the understanding there was to be no rent. Mr. Hancock owed \$30 to the Company and \$10 in chits, and in March 1891 when the Company intended to sue him, he asked what he claimed—not because they did not consider the accounts settled between them. Previous payments had quite met all claims, and were not simply made on account. Until this time Hancock had sent in no account. Witness considered the accounts settled when he suggested the reduction of the first item to \$150.

Re-examined—Had never seen any plan or specification for the annex, and there was no mention of it in the Company's minute book.

By the Court:—All the plans said to have been supplied were no doubt in accordance with the Company's intentions, but certainly they were not all supplied. Witness knew nothing of the \$300 which plaintiff said he had lent to the Company. Witness had been until quite recently under the impression that Hancock had used the \$300 for filth as directed.

Mr. William Dancy, architect, was called to give technical evidence. Was well acquainted with architect's work in Hongkong and Canton. Some of the charges made by plaintiff were entirely contrary to witness's experience. As to the plans which could not be found, but which plaintiff asserted he had made, it was usual to keep a copy in the architect's office. It was impossible to say what would be a fair charge for plans without going to clients.

It was not usual to charge for going to clients for a counsel, alone. The commission on total cost was usually made to cover all necessary attendance. Usually there was 5 per cent. on new buildings and 7 per cent. on old ones. For visits to Canton witness had only bare expenses, but no special fee.

Mr. Robinson explained that he wished to show that as an architect he was not entitled to charge for every visit, whereas if he were a solicitor he might.

Cross-examined, witness gave his opinion on each item in the accounts, showing some to be reasonable and others not.

The case was adjourned until to-morrow.

**VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.**

The annual general meeting of the members of the V.R.C. was held in the Gymnasium of the Club yesterday. There was a large attendance, and Mr. Koo was elected to the chair.

The Chairman said that in looking at the reports of the three sub-committees, he was fully satisfied in the printed report that it was hardly necessary for him to refer to any particulars. From the accounts they would see that they were \$75 to the bad, their expenses having exceeded their income to that extent. This was owing principally to the repairs to the bathhouse. He was sorry to say that every year these repairs to the swimming bath would sink swallow a great deal of their income. The firework was old and in a bad state and required to be continually repaired, involving a good deal of expense. Last year the repairs to it amounted to \$240, and this year they would amount to about \$200. The Regatta account showed a small debit balance, and the typhoon account an increase of \$80 from interest. If there were any questions to be put he would be very glad to answer them.

After a few remarks as to the item of \$500 for auditors, and as to the \$500 which should under the rule have been set aside for the Chairman, he proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Lucas seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Secretary said the next business was the election of a chairman. This was by ballot, but so far there had never been a contest. Since the departure of Mr. Thos. Jackson they had had no chairman of the Club, and he was now about to propose the name of an gentleman who had always been a great interest in the Club. They did not want a man as Chairman who only came down to the annual meeting and never bothered himself further about the Club; they wanted a man who would take a home personal interest

in the affairs of the Club, and be thought they would find that qualification in Mr. Stewart Lockhart, whom he begged to propose as Chairman.

Mr. Skeels seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Chairman mentioned that Mr. Laling and Capt. Davidson had left the Colony, and Mr. Kennedy did not offer himself for re-election on the Committee. He proceeded to take a ballot for the 11 vacancies, resulting as follows:—Bath House sub-committee—Messrs. H. C. Manning, M. A. A. Souza, A. G. Stephen, R. B. B. sub-committee—Capt. Robinson, Messrs. E. Friedrichs, A. Turner, Gymnasium sub-committee—Messrs. W. Jackson, F. W. Koch, C. H. Thompson; hon. treasurer, R. T. Wright; hon. secretary, G. C. C. Master.

### PRESENTATION TO CHIEF INSPECTOR CRADOCK.

At the Central Police Station this morning Chief Inspector Cradock, who is leaving the Hongkong Police Force through failing health, after nearly a quarter of a century's service, was presented with a valuable gold watch and chain by the members of the Force.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police (Mr. G. Horspool), in making the presentation, said:—Mr. Cradock—I have just been asked to preside at this official "Good-bye" to you to-day, on the eve of your leaving us, on pension, but I really am quite at a loss as to what I am to say. It does not appear so long since I first saw you here, a smart young police constable, but it really is more than twenty-four years ago. Promotion in the force in those days, as compared with the present time, was very rapid, and you rose to the rank of Inspector in the short space of eighteen months. You have been acting Chief Inspector for the past eleven months and you had previously held the same appointment on several occasions. During the latter half of your service, previous to that, you were in charge of the Water Police, a most important post, and one which you filled with credit. During a very heavy gale in September 1878 you were instrumental in saving the lives of two persons in the harbour, for which you were awarded a first class gold medal for meritorious conduct. You have also taken your share of active service ashore, and some years ago, when in charge of the Kowloon District Police, you were rather severely wounded. We are sorry that you are now retiring on account of the state of your health, but we hope that it will be much improved by the trip home, and quite restored to a quiet home life, and that you may live long in the enjoyment of your well-earned pension. In saying good-bye to you the Members of the Force tender to you their best wishes and ask your acceptance from them of this watch and chain as a token of their esteem and respect, trusting it may be the means, from time to time, of recalling to mind some pleasant memories of your service here during nearly a quarter of a century of your life—and giving a kindly thought to those still left behind, serving in the Hongkong Police.

Chief Inspector Cradock, in acknowledging the gift, said:—Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, brother officers, and members of the Force:—It gives me great pleasure to be called here to-day to receive from you such a handsome present on my retirement from the Force. I can assure you that I will keep it in lasting remembrance of the Hongkong Police Force and its members. Thanking you all cordially for the gift and good wishes, I will say good-bye to all, and wish you all long life and prosperity.

The watch bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Acting Chief Inspector Cradock by the Members of the Hongkong Police Force as a mark of their esteem, 28th May, 1891."

Mr. Cradock leaves for England to-morrow by the P. & O. steamer *Thames*.

### THREATENED DISTURBANCES IN THE NORTH.

FOREIGN GUNBOATS ORDERED UP.

Our Shanghai contemporaries for the past week contain long accounts of threatened anti-Foreign outbreaks in various Northern ports. The principal disturbances were at Nanking, the first indication being contained in a letter dated 16th instant which reached Shanghai from the first instance, stating that an uneasy feeling prevailed at Nanking among the foreigners, hostile placards having been posted up, and it being rumoured that some of the foreign garrisons had been desecrated.

On the 17th a telegram dated Wuhan, 11.30 a.m., was received at Shanghai, which read as follows:—"Threatened outbreak at Nanking. *Incident* has left for there; *Incident* expected."

The *Incident* reached Nanking at 11 p.m. on the 17th before any trouble had arisen. Some 2,000 natives had congregated, but had been dispersed by the Magistrate.

At Chinkiang some uneasiness was felt, as the 17th is a great Chinese festival and the Chinese authorities were undecided how to act in the matter. If they permitted the processions, thousands of people would flock in to the Settlement, and the rowdy element would be sure to be well represented, and might cause some trouble. On the other hand, if the processions were forbidden, the people might get excited and angry and retaliate by attacking the residence of the Magistrate, so that under the circumstances the residents felt rather anxious time of it. H.M.S. *Swift*, which had been ordered up the river to Wuhan, was delayed owing to the difficulty in obtaining a pilot.

One of the Shanghai steamer companies having allowed one of its pilots to go in the *Swift*, for the vessel left on the morning of the 20th for the river.

On the 18th Mr. von Locher, the Acting Consul-General for Germany at Shanghai, telegraphed to the Viceroy at Nanking, claiming his protection for the German missionary at Nanking, and received the following reply:—"To the German Consul-General—"

"I have received and read your telegraphic message. At present in the city of Nanking there are the various officers in charge. There are also soldiers to keep the people under restraint. I shall certainly not allow ignorant persons to raise disturbances. I, the Governor-General, have already sent orders by telegraph to the police to be on their guard to carefully protect the German mission, and to securely protect (these who may be attacked)."

"H.I.G.M.'s gunboat *Ilse* arrived at Nanking on the 19th, and the commander telegraphed to Mr. von Locher that all was quiet, but the German missionary there had asked that the *Ilse* might remain for three days.

In the meantime the *Incident* anchored below the city of the town, not far from the house of the missionaries. The captain at once received a letter from the Father informing him of the state of affairs. Besides he was himself already on the way in a steam launch to give intelligence. He went on board again to give a letter to the Governor of the town, assuring him of his peaceable intentions, and of his desire to act in concert with the Chinese authorities to maintain order and put down the riot. But he understood that if the rioters did not listen to the magistrate, as was the case at Wuhan, he would not hesitate to take strong measures, leaving the responsibility of any further consequences to rest in the proper quarter.

The Governor replied that order would be maintained and that was no need of alarm. He ordered the *Taoli* to go the next day and carry from him this assurance to the captain of the *Incident*.

On the 19th the *Ilse* anchored also below the walls of Nanking. In the forenoon the two captains, accompanied by some officers, went together to the house of the missionaries. They informed the Father that he could pay his visit there. He came there with his suite, and the interview was a most amicable one. At the same time the Superior-General of the Mission, who had arrived the same morning, thought that he ought to make known very forcibly the incidents of which he was a witness at Wuhan, at the house which he had left only when it was set on fire. From this simple statement was clearly shown the share of each one's responsibility in this lamentable event.

After having visited the mission and its buildings the European officers returned on board, escorted by the guard of the Chinese mandarins. The following night Captain Ascher received from the German Minister at Peking orders to leave at once for Kiukiang.

At the present moment, (20th), all danger is not at end. Placards posted up this evening announce for Friday the 22nd the total destruction of all the buildings of the mission.

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On Wednesday last three Chinese gunboats arrived at Wuhan, they were on their way to Nanking with the Governor of Anhwei on board. Having heard of our trouble they came to anchor. It was circulated that the mob were going to fire the Custom House and river godwans the same evening at 5 o'clock; they would have carried out their intentions if these gunboats had not made their appearance. To make their presence more effective, they came and anchored close inside of all the bulks. This was done through the advice of Captain Gregson of the *Ilse*, who brought in and moored the boat drawing the most water. She was brought in and anchored alongside the bulk *Madras* in a most praiseworthy manner.

All the Foreign members of the Customs staff who were under the cool and able guidance of Mr. Commissioner Woodroffe, were quite equal to the occasion. They bivouacked around the Customs premises the whole time, marching, counter-marching, and changing from time to time as occasion required. About fourteen foreign houses in all have been looted, seven of which were completely destroyed, including the Sanatorium, Mission, and the partially erected Catholic Church. The five new houses, four of which have been occupied by numbers of Customs staff, are completely looted and are now occupied by Chinese braves.

The Chinese gunboats left us yesterday morning and proceeded to Nanking, where there are rumours of fresh trouble.

The river steamers have been doing a kind of "senryu" go here, each vessel awaiting the arrival of another previous to her departure. A French gunboat is expected, but she has not put in an appearance up to time of writing.

The mob captured the body of a priest who was buried about six months ago. On their observing that his eyes were missing they declared it was the body of a native whose eyes had been extracted, and this kindled the flame of discord, and a renewed attack was expected last evening, but when the time came everything was quiet.

The Chinese soldiers were very civil and on the 17th, while a number of the Customs staff were still bivouacking on the Customs premises.

Just as I was sending off this at 4.30 p.m. the French gun-boat *Incident* arrived, and as long as she remains here there is no fear of a renewal of the offensive tactics of the mob, who have a wholesome dread of her long line of guns, which are trained and pointed inshore.

The following villainous proclamation is posted up in the city:—"The people have been injured by the Catholic Mission. At Wuhan the foreigners and Chinese are connected in business. There are many foreigners in Wuhan, who have injured the people. Every month the Catholic Mission gives the Chinese \$200,000 in order to bribe them to believe in their doctrine. Men and women cohabit together in the Mission. Men and women are all offenders. They kidnap children for the purpose of extracting their eyes and hearts. They take the lives of these innocent children who have not offended them. People have lost their children and are now lamenting. They have applied to the Mandarin and have received no satisfaction. The people are full of grief, and have committed self-destruction by hanging themselves with a rope.

"On the 31st day of the present moon (20th) children. The children's mother met them on the road and called them, but they did not answer. They were willing to go with the Mission women. The mother followed and tried to drag the children back. The children were unable to speak. The mother had the two women seized and taken to the Magistrate (the *Wu* Chebuen), who enquired into the case. When in court the Mission women put medicine into the children's eyes and ears. Then they recovered, and everybody saw that the Mission sent 600 taels to the *Wu* Chebuen and purchased their release, which he accepted. The women were released and sent back in chairs. According to Chinese law the offence of kidnapping children is a capital crime. The money was used to evade justice. The Magistrate assisted the Mission instead of the people. A man by the name of Ho Shenan says there are 30 children here, and Wong Wong-fa states that 30 children have been disappeared, and Sing states he saw them sleeping on the bed and suddenly the child was not to be seen. These lost children must be in the Mission. They found the heads of children in four vaults. The Catholic Missionaries saw many Chinese; they were afraid. They gave 10 taels to the Colonel of Militia named *Yao* to send 40 men to guard their doors; people wanted to enter. They threatened to use their knives and wounded them. When the people saw this they determined to burn their houses. *All the people on the 30th day of this moon will rise as one man*, and go to *Yi-chi-shan*, also the *Yen-tau*, and burn all the buildings, after which we will not allow the foreigners to rebuild. If they come back we will burn them again. The Custom House must not be touched. If you touch the Custom House you will be beheaded. All the people living in the houses belonging to the respective Missions and better remove their property."

The most severe sufferers by the riots are Messrs. Russell, Dalton, Strangman, Vies, and E. Smith, whose houses have been completely destroyed, and who have lost everything.

For some days past, says the *Shan-hai*, the police in the French Concession at Shanghai have been on the look-out for inflammatory placards, two of which have been already torn down and destroyed. The text of those documents goes on to say the French are always the first among the foreigners to cause disturbances, their definite adjustment.

It is towards them more especially the hatred of the Chinese is directed. Instances of this bitter feeling against the French have already been given in Wuhan and the other River ports, and the placards warn the French in Shanghai that their turn will soon come, as the patience of the Chinese here, who have always hitherto exhibited generous and long-suffering towards the French, is exhausted. The placards revile the French Mixed Court Magistrate, whom the writer says was once a house-boy to a foreigner, and is not capable of looking after Chinese interests. In the recent inquest he sat like a block, incapable of uttering a word, and left all the work to the Shanghai Che-hien. The placard concludes that a general attack will be made upon the foreigners in the French Concession on the 27th of the Chinese moon.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 22nd inst. says:—"We have been anxious not to cause unnecessary alarm, and we have therefore said very little about the recent unfortunate death of a Chinaman after an encounter with a French policeman, but it cannot be concealed that there is a very strong feeling at the present moment among the Chinese in the city and the settlements, that justice has not been done in the matter. The Chinese do not understand that European laws do not allow a man to be convicted of murder unless it is satisfactorily proved that he willfully caused the death complained of, and deep threats are being made of reprisals unless satisfaction, or what they consider satisfaction, is done. It is to be hoped that the existing condition, being made, but there is trouble in the air, though it is not likely to break out while the *Ilse* remains here. Those who are responsible for the safety of the settlements are on the alert, and all the necessary preparations have been made by Major Morrison, in the event of the services of the Volunteers being required. Already we hear of people up-country being asked, somewhat menacingly, if they are French or English, and these things are straw which show how the popular wind is blowing, and forewarned, with prudent people, is fore-armed."

The *Taoli*, Nieh, issued a proclamation on the 22nd in which he says "I have received telegraphic instructions from H.E. Liu K'un-yi, the Viceroy of Nanking, authorizing me to call upon the Naval and Military forces if necessary for the protection of all the churches and keep the settlements in tranquillity, and those instructions I assure you, I will faithfully carry out. If any society meet, or evil-doers of any sort, be found in the settlements inciting the people to turbulence and crime, they will be most severely punished. To incite the people to violence is a very grave and grave offence, and those who are proved guilty of it are, according to Chinese law, liable to be punished by strangulation or decapitation, and by less severe punishments for the offence in a less degree."

**A LEGAL VIEW OF MUSGROVE v. AH TOP.**

The well-known writer on questions of international and colonial law, "A. W. R.", has the following note on the case of *Musgrove v. Ah Top*, recently decided in the Privy Council, in the April number of the *Judicial Review*.

Stated briefly the material facts were these: On April 27, 1888, the British ship *Alfred*, of 1,439 tons measurement, arrived in the port of Melbourne, having on board 268 Chinese alien immigrants, among whom was the respondent, Chun Teong Toy. Now the Chinese Act of 1875, which contains the following provisions:—"If any vessel having on board a great number of immigrants, then in the proportion of one such immigrant to every hundred tons of tonnage of such vessel shall arrive at any time in any port in Victoria, the owner, master, or charter of such vessel shall be liable on conviction to a penalty of £100 for each immigrant so carried in excess of the foregoing limitation" (Sec. 2).

"Before any immigrant arriving from ports beyond Victoria shall be permitted to land from any vessel at any port or place in Victoria, the master of such vessel shall pay to the Collector of Customs the sum of £10 for every such immigrant." On the arrival of the *Alfred* in the port of Melbourne the applicant, A. W. Musgrove, Collector of Customs, acting under the authority of the Commissioner of Trade (the responsible Minister of the Crown in Victoria in matters relating to immigration), refused either to permit the respondent to land, or to accept on his behalf the tax of £10, which the master of the *Alfred* was ready and offered to pay. Thereupon the respondent sued the applicant in the Supreme Court of Victoria, which, by a majority of two, decided in his favour, and the damages were assessed at £150. From these proceedings the present appeal to the Privy Council was brought by special leave. The Judicial Committee have now reversed the findings of the majority of the judges in the Court below (Williams, J., Holroyd, J., A. Beckett, J., and Wrenford, J.), and have expressed their entire concurrence in the able judgment of Mr. Justice Kerferd, who, with Highgate, C. J., constituted the minority.

The issues raised by this appeal with less or more directness were important and numerous. The points on which the decision of the Judicial Committee was actually turned are both minute and few. The object of the late Chinese legislation in Victoria, said the Lord Chancellor in effect, has been restrictive, and not fiscal; the position the soundness of which is demonstrated by our note on the origin and development of the "Chinese puzzle" in the Australian Colonies. Where the master of a vessel has committed an offence against section 2 of the Act of 1875 he can have no right to require the Collector of Customs to accept the poll-tax imposed by section 3, and thus to further the purpose for which the unlawful act was committed. An ingenious argument was put forward by the respondent, being put forward by Mr. McCarthy, that the statute, being brought into effect by the respondent, was impliedly disposed of by the Lord Chancellor, apparently on the ground that the illegality of the master tainted every member of his crew. In such reasoning one seems to hear the echo of the old "doctrine of identification" laid down in *Thorogood v. Bryan* (1891, 1 C.B. 115), and exploded in *W. v. Armstrong* (1888, 12 App. Cas. 1).

Whether the act of the appellant was a crime, the principle determined in *Bureau v. Denman* (1848, 2 Ex. 117) with regard to the Imperial, applies also to the Colonial advisers of the Crown, what the precise position of Victorian Ministers under the Constitution Acts, in whom does the royal prerogative to exclude aliens now reside, so far as the Colony of Victoria is concerned—in fact, all the great constitutional questions in the determination of which the Australian Colonies have and take a vital interest are—perhaps rightly—propounded by the Judicial Committee to a more convenient season.

An action for damages improperly brought by a Chinese alien, whose very *loquax* stands in a doubtful court of law, is something more than doubtful, may justify the Privy Council in hearing, issues so grave and delicate elaborately argued. But greater pomp and circumstance must attend their definite adjustment.

**SHANGHAI.**

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Stated briefly the material facts were these: On April 27, 1888, the British ship *Alfred*, of 1,439 tons measurement, arrived in the port of Melbourne, having on board 268 Chinese alien immigrants, among whom was the respondent, Chun Teong Toy. Now the Chinese Act of 1875, which contains the following provisions:—"If any vessel having on board a great number of immigrants, then in the proportion of one such immigrant to every hundred tons of tonnage of such vessel shall arrive at any time in any port in Victoria, the owner, master, or charter of such vessel shall be liable on conviction to a penalty of £100 for each immigrant so carried in excess of the foregoing limitation" (Sec. 2).

"Before any immigrant arriving from ports beyond Victoria shall be permitted to land from any vessel at any port or place in Victoria, the master of such vessel shall pay to the Collector of Customs the sum of £10 for every such immigrant." On the arrival of the *Alfred* in the port of Melbourne the applicant, A. W. Musgrove, Collector of Customs, acting under the authority of the Commissioner of Trade (the responsible Minister of the Crown in Victoria in matters relating to immigration), refused either to permit the respondent to land, or to accept on his behalf the tax of £10, which the master of the *Alfred* was ready and offered to pay. Thereupon the respondent sued the applicant in the Supreme Court of Victoria, which, by a majority of two, decided in his favour, and the damages were assessed at £150. From these proceedings the present appeal to the Privy Council was brought by special leave. The Judicial Committee have now reversed the findings of the majority of the judges in the Court below (Williams, J., Holroyd, J., A. Beckett, J., and Wrenford, J.), and have expressed their entire concurrence in the able judgment of Mr. Justice Kerferd, who, with Highgate, C. J., constituted the minority.

The issues raised by this appeal with less or more directness were important and numerous. The points on which the decision of the Judicial Committee was actually turned are both minute and few. The object of the late Chinese legislation in Victoria, said the Lord Chancellor in effect, has been restrictive, and not fiscal; the position the soundness of which is demonstrated by our note on the origin and development of the "Chinese puzzle" in the Australian Colonies. Where the master of a vessel has committed an offence against section 2 of the Act of 1875 he can have no right to require the Collector of Customs to accept the poll-tax imposed by section 3, and thus to further the purpose for which the unlawful act was committed. An ingenious argument was put forward by the respondent, being put forward by Mr. McCarthy, that the statute, being brought into effect by the respondent, was impliedly disposed of by the Lord Chancellor, apparently on the ground that the illegality of the master tainted every member of his crew. In such reasoning one seems to hear the echo of the old "doctrine of identification" laid down in *Thorogood v. Bryan* (1891, 1 C.B. 115), and exploded in *W. v. Armstrong* (1888, 12 App. Cas. 1).

Whether the act of the appellant was a crime, the principle determined in *Bureau v. Denman* (1848, 2 Ex. 117) with regard to the Imperial, applies also to the Colonial advisers of the Crown, what the precise position of Victorian Ministers under the Constitution Acts, in whom does the royal prerogative to exclude aliens now reside, so far as the Colony of Victoria is concerned—in fact, all the great constitutional questions in the determination of which the Australian Colonies have and take a vital interest are—perhaps rightly—propounded by the Judicial Committee to a more convenient season.

An action for damages improperly brought by a Chinese alien, whose very *loquax* stands in a doubtful court of law, is something more than doubtful, may justify the Privy Council in hearing, issues so grave and delicate elaborately argued. But greater pomp and circumstance must attend their definite adjustment.

**SHANGHAI.**

For some days past, says the *Shan-hai*, the police in the French Concession at Shanghai have been on the look-out for inflammatory placards, two of which have been already torn down and destroyed. The text of those documents goes on to say the French are always the first among the foreigners to cause disturbances, their definite adjustment.

It is towards them more especially the hatred of the Chinese is directed. Instances of this bitter feeling against the French have already been given in Wuhan and the other River ports, and the placards warn the French in Shanghai that their turn will soon come, as the patience of the Chinese here, who have always hitherto exhibited generous and long-suffering towards the French, is exhausted. The placards revile the French Mixed Court Magistrate, whom the writer says was once a house-boy to a foreigner, and is not capable of looking after Chinese interests. In the recent inquest he sat like a block, incapable of uttering a word, and left all the work to the Shanghai Che-hien. The placard concludes that a general attack will be made upon the foreigners in the French Concession on the 27th of the Chinese moon.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 22nd inst. says:—"We have been anxious not to cause unnecessary alarm, and we have therefore said very little about the recent unfortunate death of a Chinaman after an encounter with a French policeman, but it cannot be concealed that there is a very strong feeling at the present moment among the Chinese in the city and the settlements, that justice has not been done in the matter. The Chinese do not understand that European laws do not allow a man to be convicted of murder unless it is satisfactorily proved that he willfully caused the death complained of, and deep threats are being made of reprisals unless satisfaction, or what they consider satisfaction, is done. It is to be hoped that the existing condition, being made, but there is trouble in the air, though it is not likely to break out while the *Ilse* remains here. Those who are responsible for the safety of the settlements are on the alert, and all the necessary preparations have been made by Major Morrison, in the event of the services of the Volunteers being required. Already we hear of people up-country being asked, somewhat menacingly, if they are French or English, and these things are straw which show how the popular wind is blowing, and forewarned, with prudent people, is fore-armed."

The *Taoli*, Nieh, issued a proclamation on the 22nd in which he says "I have received telegraphic instructions from H.E. Liu K'un-yi, the Viceroy of Nanking, authorizing me to call upon the Naval and Military forces if necessary for the protection of all the churches and keep the settlements in tranquillity, and those instructions I assure you, I will faithfully carry out. If any society meet, or evil-doers of any sort, be found in the settlements inciting the people to turbulence and crime, they will be most severely punished. To incite the people to violence is a very grave and grave offence, and those who are proved guilty of it are, according to Chinese law, liable to be punished by strangulation or decapitation, and by less severe punishments for the offence in a less degree."

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